

# MEMO

**DATE:** January 12, 2006

**TO:** Community, Economic and Human Development Committee (CEHD)

**FROM:** Joseph Carreras, Lead Regional Planner, 213.236.1856, Carreras@scag.ca.gov

**SUBJECT:** 2006 Regional Housing Summit Planning Activities are Now Underway

---

## SUMMARY:

The City of Torrance has offered to host the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Housing Summit. It is tentatively scheduled to be held at the Toyota Meeting Hall, City of Torrance from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM on Thursday, April 20, 2006.

In January 2006, SCAG is expecting an award of California Blueprint grant funds to integrate transportation and local land use planning by developing a 20 year Housing Allocation Plan and promoting growth in Compass 2% Strategy areas. Housing affordability is deemed a critical regional issue for our workforce and economy, and general population. Current housing issues are documented in the 2005 State of the Region Report, where Housing received a grade of "D." The region is currently scheduled to start the preparation of an RHNA updated tied to the Regional Transportation Plan's growth forecast. Last October, SCAG participated in sponsoring Removing Barriers to Affordable Housing. This Summit was held in the City of Ontario, and focused on what HUD and the federal government could do to help the region address its housing problems.

## BACKGROUND:

The Annual Regional Housing Summit was mandated by the Regional Council after the last Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA). It is intended as a forum for developing a collective local strategy to address housing needs of the region by promoting increased housing production and housing affordability. Past Summits have included presentations by housing experts on market trends and needs, information sharing on successful local and regional programs, and dialogue on legislative initiatives designed to assist local governments in meeting state housing planning requirements. Housing production is an important component in meeting the region's fair share of statewide housing need, while housing availability and affordability provision is a critical social equity and economic vitality issue for Southern California.

Doc #117751